

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2009, 6:30 PM
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

The School Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2009, at 6:30 PM in the High School Library. Committee members present were: Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, Mr. Mullen, and Mrs. Werkheiser. Also present were Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, and Mrs. Cusick.

Present in the audience were: Ms. Salem, Pupil Personnel Director; Mr. Haggerty, High School Teacher.

Mr. Norris introduced Sean Gray and Daniel Foley, High School Student Representatives.

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the minutes of the Budget Sub-Committee meeting of March 9, 2009 were accepted. Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, and Mrs. Werkheiser voted in favor. Mr. Mullen abstained.

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2009 were accepted. Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, and Mrs. Werkheiser voted in favor. Mr. Mullen abstained.

A request from the Rockland Lions Club to distribute flyers to Pre-School, elementary and middle school students was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

The Superintendent gave the Committee an overview of the stimulus money to be received by the School Department in the amount of \$327,000 in state stabilization funds and \$355,000 in Special Education funds. It was noted that there will be many regulations in the spending of these funds including professional development, curriculum, and purchase of materials. Mr. Retchless informed the Committee that the High School Cheerleaders won the New England Championship held in New Hampshire. The team will attend a future School Committee meeting with a DVD of the competition. The Superintendent noted a news article regarding the condition of the high school auditorium stage. It was also noted that an interim cafeteria manager will be working for the remainder of the school year to replace the manager who has left.

On four separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following Financial Reports for February were accepted:

- 1) School Department
- 2) High School Student Activities
- 3) Middle School Student Activities
- 4) Cafeteria

On seventeen separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the following Monthly Reports for January/February were accepted:

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| 1) Art | Ms. Gibson |
| 2) Athletic | Mr. Graziano |
| 3) Day Care | Mrs. Veiga |
| 4) Deans | Mrs. Schipper/Mr. Damon |
| 5) English | Ms. McDonough |
| 6) Family Consumer Sci./Tech Ed. | Mr. Graziano |
| 7) Foreign Language | Ms. Buckley |
| 8) Library | Mrs. Linehan |
| 9) Math | Mr. Casagrande |
| 10) Music | Mr. Harden |
| 11) Radio/TV Station | Mr. Cable-Murphy |
| 12) Science | Ms. Casagrande |
| 13) Social Studies | Mr. Grimmett |
| 14) Special Education (8-12) | Mrs. McGonnigal |
| 15) Technology | Mr. Wells |
| 16) Title I | Title I Parent Coordinator |
| 17) Middle School | Ms. Bohn |

Mr. Mullen commented on the wide variety of programs that are being offered at the high school library and commended Ms. Linehan on her efforts. It was also noted that Mr. Wells, newly appointed Technology Coordinator, is doing an excellent job.

The Superintendent reported on his meeting with Ms. Craven, Executive Director of the MSBA, and announced a meeting to be held on April 9, 2009 with the Director.

After a general discussion with regard to the proposed override, it was voted to send a letter to the Selectmen stating the wishes of the Committee that the School Department be placed on a separate ballot question. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous. The letter will be signed by all members of the Committee.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the proposed Town Meeting Warrant Article was approved.

On the motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the 2009-2010 Driver Education Bid was awarded as recommended by the Superintendent to AAA Old Colony Driving School, Inc.

On the motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the 2009-2010 Sale of Refreshments Bid was awarded as recommended by the Superintendent to the Rockland Bulldog Pride Boosters. The Committee requested that the Assistant Superintendent remind the Boosters that there should be compliance with the school's policy on healthy choices.

On the motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, permission was granted to advertise for the 2009-2010 Electrical Services Bid.

On the motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, permission was granted to re-advertise for the 2009-2010 Instrument Rental Program Bid.

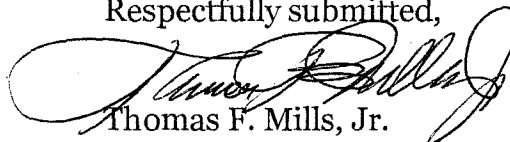
On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to table approval of the 2009-2010 School Calendar. Mr. Retchless noted the REA voted to approve the Monday before Labor Day as the first day of school and they will sign a memorandum of agreement. Mr. Norris thanked the teachers for their good will in negotiating this issue.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, it was voted to approve the proposed increase in Pre-School tuition to \$1,500.

Mr. Retchless reviewed personnel activity for February, and March 2008 highlighting the retirement of Ms. Buckley, Foreign Language Chairperson, after over forty years of teaching.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas F. Mills, Jr.
Chairman